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AP Literature and Composition

Reflection: “Barbie Doll” Title Analysis

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Overall, I am rather proud of this essay. Poetry is not usually my forte, but I feel that I did rather well with the prompt. However, although I understood that when we were using denotation we were required to define every single word we were quoting, I was unsure of when it was necessary. In addition, I was still confused on whether or not I needed to cite the words “Barbie” and “doll” every time I used them, but I suppose not seeing as I was not corrected in my final essay for not citing every time.

The “so what” point of this essay was that society places extreme importance on outer appearances. The girl in the poem was unique and pretty in her own way, but that was not enough for society to accept her. At the end of the poem when the girl dies, society dresses her up just as she had been expected to be in life. The “so what” point is that people need to stop judging others based on their appearances and whether or not they fit in with the rest of society. Beauty isn’t everything.

I feel that I did have many good points in my analysis and that I sufficiently backed myself up with quotes from the text. However, I feel as though I repeated a lot of the same ideas numerous times, but I can understand how that is possible from such a short poem. Repetition was my only concern for this essay. Like I said before, I’m not especially good with poetry and I was surprised at how comfortable I was while writing this title analysis.